

**Certaine Orations and An-
swers made by Iohn Casimire
Countie Palatine of Rhyne, Duke
of Bauier &c. and his Embassa-
dours, vnto the French King
& his Embassadours in de-
fence of his maintenance
of his Peace, and
christian Re-
ligion.**

(#)



Translated out of 87...246
French, 1579.

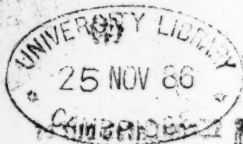
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1579.

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1716 - 1886

Bill & Amvache



H The Charge of the Lord of Villiquier
as he delivered the same in vrrighting
vnto my Lord the Duke Cassmir.



MY Lord, as touch-
ing the request which it
pleased your highnes this
mornig to make vnto me,
namely y I should in wri-
ting deliuer vnto you the charge which I
haue receiued of my Maister y moste Chri-
stian King. I am not minded to deny you,
~~but~~, for that by word of mouth, I haue
not opened to you any other then y truethe,
whiche his Maiestie willeth, and is minded
to let you knowe.

His Maiestie therfore heeing sozy to heare
of the decesses of my Lord the Countie Pa-
latine your Father, doth neuerthelesse
much reioyce and prayse God for that so
wise a Prince as my Lord, at this present
Elector, hath succeded him in the said E-
lectorall Dignitie, for the visitation of
whome, his Maiestie hath now sent mee:
commaunding mee by the way to see your
Highnesse, to the end to assure the same
that

that hee desireth nothing moze then to
loue you, as in effect he hath alredy, euen
to this time giuen, you to vnderstand.

Also the moze to confirme the good will
which he beareth you: hee thought good by
mee to giue you to vnderstand of his newes
together with the estate of his affaires,
which are as followeth.

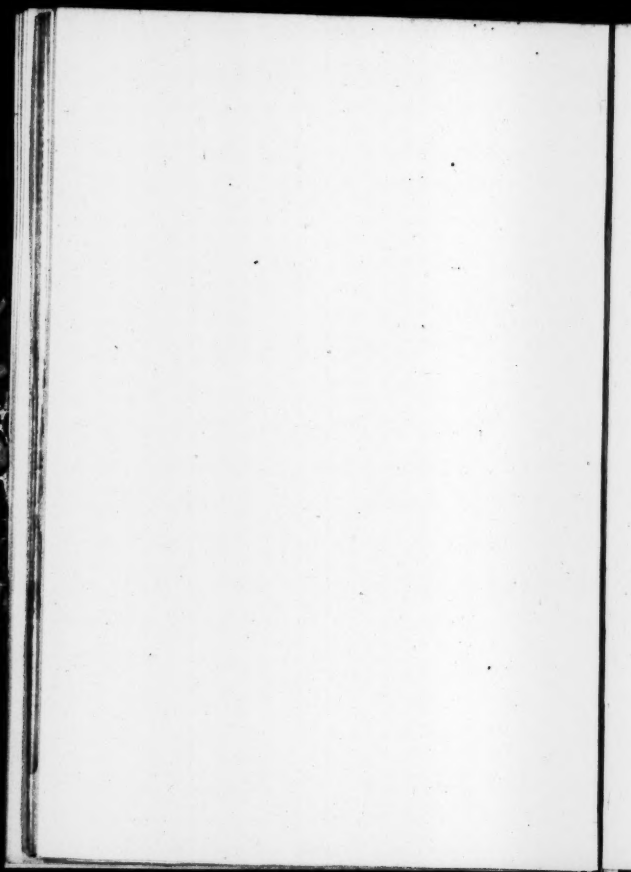
His Maiestie hauing summoned the
generall Estates of his Realme vnto his
Cologne of Bloys, after many and large
conferences among them holden within
these three moneths, they haue with one ge
nerall assent in full assembly, (where my
self was present) requested his Maiestie
no longer to permit within his Domini
ons any other then the exercise of the Ca
tholick, Apostolick and Roman Religi
on, wherunto at my departure his Maie
stie was determined to condescend. First
therby to discharge y^e duty of his conscience,
which moueth him after the example of
other Kings his Predecessors so to doe,
who therby haue peaceably enioyed their
estates. Next by reason that hetherunto hee
hath perceined that the diuersitie of Reli
gions haue with them brought into all
partes

partes of his Kingdome where they haue
been established new, occasions of discen-
tion among his Subiects, yea euen amōg
the quietest of them, and haue been the on-
ly meanes to maintain them in denisions
and perticuler hatred: mozeouer that it is
to manifest that they haue not so much re-
quested & exercise of their said pretended
reformed Religio for any satisfiing or con-
tenting of their consciences, as for the
maintenaunce of factions, practices, and
dixits, ordinarily deuised against & auto-
tie of his said Maiestie, to whome by all
meanes they endeouour to make them sel-
ues in power equall, by dayly moze and
moze fortifying them selues, therby vpon
euery occasion and oportunitie to disobey
him, and so to shake of the Yoke of obedi-
ence wher vnto naturally they are bound,
as the effects in each respect doth make
sufficiēt pꝛoofe, notwithstanding in wordes
they would shewe them selues deuoid of
all such matter. As euen of late their
new supplying of la Charitie with fresh
men of warre, contrary to the agrément
made, to the end wholly to appropriate the
same to the selues doth manifestly declare

as also their seizing vppon sundry towne
and Castels, in the Countries of Poitou,
Xantoigne, Guyen, Daulphine, and Lan
guedoc, together with diuers murders &
cruelties practised against the Catholicks
do shewe the same. Againe his Maies-
tie on the other side, settig befoze his eyes
one thing woorthie consideration, which
is, that hauing since the graunt of the last
Ed: taken all order possible to cause the
tolleration of the exercise of the said pre-
tendid reformed Religion in sundry towne
and places within his Dominions, he hath
not been able to bring the same to passe, by
reason of the oppositions of the Catholicks
who could not supporte the folly wherw
they haue endeouored to proceed.

And indeed perceiuing by all their deeds
and demenures that they sought to en-
crease and multiply them selues to y ruin
and ouerthrowe of them and their Catho-
licke Religion, they haue among them
selues made fraternities, Assotiations,
and leagues one with an other for the
conseruation bothe of them selues & their
said Catholick Religiō, also y therby they
may the better provide for their owne af-
fares





Also where as it pleased you my Lord this morning to aledge vnto me, y^e in asmuch as the exercise of the afoze said Religion was not fræly permitted in Fraunce, it was an vtter breaking, & p^reuentig of the Edi& of pacification wher vnto his Maies^{tie} hath so solënly sworne, I doe aunswere that contrarywise for the satisfissing to one of the Articles therof this assembly of E^{states} was summoned, to the end that after the hearing of the complaints and græuances of his S^{ub}iects, they might be p^rouided for as should s^em requisit wher vnto he could not better satisfie then in v^oling this determination which is correspondent vnto the vniuersall request of the Deputies of the th^{ree} orders of this Realme, namely the Church, the Nobilitie & the third Estate, agræeing also with the iudgement of his owne Conscience, against the which he should thinke him self doing otherwise to erre. Wherfore to conclude, this is it which he thiketh may best serue and p^rofit the generall common welth of his Realme and of all his S^{ub}iects.

Thus subscribed Villiquier.

The

✿ The Answer of my said
Lord the Duke, vnto the afore
said Charge.

THe Lord Duke Ibon
Cassimire hauing heard of the
Lord of Villiquier what so e-
uer hee had to say to him in the behalfe of
the King his Maister, did request his Ma-
iestie to take in good parte this answer
from point to point, and the same to re-
ceiue with as good a will as the said Lord
Duke is affectionate to the aduancement
comoditie and seruice of his Maiestie and
the Crown of Fraunce.

First the said Lord the Duke most hum-
bly thaketh his maiestie for y^e græf which
he seemeth to participate in for the death
of his late Lord and Father, assuring his
Maiestie that he hath great cause so to do
in respect of the zeale, care and singuler af-
fection whiche he alwayes bare euen to
the last gaspe of his life, vnto the ad-
uancement and preservation of his Ma-
iesties person, together with the comoditie
and

and quietnesse of the whole Realme of
Fraunce.

The said Lord Duke hopeth also that his
Maiestie shall finde that my Lord the E-
lector his brother hath succeeded not only,
in the Electorall Dignitie, but also in like
goodwil and affection, wherin hee the said
Lord Duke dooth also assure his Maiestie
that for his parte he wil follow the steps
of his late Lord and Father, so nere as
possible he may, and will alwaie by Gods
help professe y^e same, not only to his Coun-
try, but also to his Maiestie with as good
a wil as euer hee did.

Wherfoze as his Maiestie dooth the said
Lord Duke so much honoz, as by the way
to cause y^e Lord of Villiquire, to visit him
and to communicate vnto him of his newes
can hee not also forget as wel moste hum-
bly to thank his maiestie, as also plainly
to declare vnto him, that vnderstanding
his intent to be such as the said Lord of
Villiquire hath both giuen him to vnder-
stand and left with him in w^riting, is vnto
him newes indeed.

First becaule that this his Maiesties ple-
sure is vtterly repugnant vnto the pro-
mises

mises, othes, and assurances, wherw^t his
Maiestie hath allwaies protested bothe by
mouth and wrighting, that he would mai-
tain his Edict of Pacification, concluded,
and sealed by the autoritie of his Maiestie
the Queene his mother, the Princes of his
blood, and his priuie counsaill, at such time
as his Maiestie had such store of his pow-
er about him, that easely he might haue
down what he had pleased, and this he did
to the end for euer to testifie that he did
conclude, sweare and solemply confirme
the same, of his owne pure, mére, free and
liberall goodwil, for the p^{ro}ffit, and quiet-
nesse of his Kingdome, and Subiects, as
not onely the said Lady Queene his Mo-
ther, the Princes and other Lords haue
by word of mouth protested vnto the said
Lord Duke at the concluding of the said
peace, whervnto for the greater cōfima-
tion of the same they also requested the
said Lord Duke to subscribe, as indeed he
did: but also his Maiestie him self hath
bothe sent him word and confirmed the
same.

Spoke ouer this his Maiesties intent sé-
meth so much the moze straunge to
the

the said Lord Duke, as that to his great
grāf he therby forſeeth the finall perditio
wherunto his Maieſtie for the putting of
his determination in executio, doth he
long caſt his owne perſon and whole Re
alme; wherof together with the preſent e
ſtate of his affaires and the generall ruin
to come, the ſaid Lord with the reſt of the
Princes of Germany who be with the pre
ſervation of the French Monarchie, being
dayly truely aduertised, as the ſaid Lord of
Villiquier may by them ſelues vnderſtand,
and ſhall ſee the writings bothe writtten
and printed which the ſaid Lord Duke
truſteth wilbe ſufficient to reuoke his ſaid
Maieſtie from his reſolution, and wherby
he ſhall perceiue the malice of his Ser
uants hired herunto, who vſurpig the title
of the Eſtates in y name of all his ſubiectes
haue made this request wherof they neuer
receiued commiſſion of his Subiectes, either
were by them aduowed, as the ſaid Lord
of Villequier ſhall at his return very well
vnderſtand.

The ſaid Lord Duke may (thanks be to
God) plainly teſtifie, that he hath of moſte
faithfull

faithful and sincere affection aduertised
his Maiestie aſwel by letters and Emba-
ſſadours as by his Maiesties Deſſenger.

First being in France, hee warnded him
of the holy league, the frutes wherof, hee
may now evidently perceiue to be vtter-
ly contrary to the faith and reputation of
his Maiestie and quietnesse of his Sub-
iects.

After being come home by Prayllon him-
self (who is now heer present) hee gaue his
Maiestie to vnderstand of the true aduer-
tismētts which hee had receiued of his diſſi-
dels and practises prepared for prouiſing and
corrupting in each parte, and bringing
to the deuotion of those whome wee do
perceiue, ſuche as ſhould enioy the ti-
tle of the Estates: that is to ſay, to pro-
uide that no Estates should be holden free-
ly, lawfully and without respect of Religi-
on, where at might be present (as at all
times aunciently they haue been accuſto-
med) the Princes of the blood, together
with all ſuch as haue wherof to complain.
Moreouer the ſaid Lord Duke hath true-
ly aduertised his maiestie after what ma-
ner the Edict of peace hath bene executed
nothing

nothing is done: that **h**e Estates haue been
ordered in such wise as already he hath
been aduertised: that the Princes of the
blood haue therunto been called to the end
to intrap them. Now such men haue been
fauoured, as haue offered to lay houlde vp
pon their Parsons, and to surprize those
Townes where the Edict is lawfully and
sincerely executed, together with the pla-
ces where those of the Religion haue been
forced to keep them selues, and not to for-
sake the same by reason of the execution
of the Edict. He hath been moreouer
truely aduertised of the othe lately made
to his Maestie, the Coppe wherof was
sumarely deliuered to **h**e said Lord of Vil-
lequier, a matter, to say truth, horrible to
be known among men, and so straunge
that **h**e said Lord Duke could neuer haue
beleued it, had not the continual and late
contrauentions against the Edict moste
manifestly declared **h**e same, & the Kings
proposition made by the said Villequier
fully confirmed it, as also the said matters
do ioyntly cause the said Lord Duke to
belaeue that his Maesties determinat'on
is correspondent to the declaration of the

aforsaid Lord of Villequier.

Whoebeit the said Lord Duke trusteth
that in asmuch as it is a month since the
departure of the said Lord of Villequier,
God hath otherwise inspired his Maies-
tie and caused him to smel out this poyso-
ned counsaile, together with the vanitie of
the offers of these pretended Estates, to
the end to put his Maiestie in minde, yea
to cause him, euen as it were with his fin-
ger to touch that which hertofore wise-
ly and ripely, hee hath had in woorthy
consideration, which also his faithfull and
truely affected Seruants and Friends not
only in France, but also throught out Chri-
stendome, haue manifested vnto him,
which also finally necessitie it self hath gi-
uen to vnderstand, not only to his Maies-
tie, but to his Predecessors, by so much
experience when they haue endeoured
(but euer in vaine) to root out the reformed
Religion, and all exercise of the same by
warres, persecutions, and other meanes,
euen horrible to be reberfed, which the
said Lord Duke could not ouer passe, by
reason of the sincere affection which he be-
reth to the conseruation of the mightines
of

of his Maiestie: And to the end to see him
at peace wth his Subiects, the way is, to set
before his Maiesties eyes this litle whi-
ch followeth.

First, that it may please his Maiestie to
call to minde the counsaile of Gamahel that
against that which commeth of God, no
power or practise of man can preuaile: al-
so that whatsoever is not of God: wasteth
and perissheth of it self.

Secondly y^e in matters of estate that is
good, which is necessary, wherein his Ma-
iestie may looke in the looking glasse of
Germany, Poland, Hungary, Boheme,
Switzerland, and the lowv Country, not
as things are cloked: but according to the
truethe, as him self hath seen, for to com-
pare a Prince of Germany with his ma-
iestie or with all Fraunce is an absurde
thing, but to compare Fraunce, with all
Germany: is an equall propoztion.

Thirdly, that his Maiestie perceiueth
that all the same Contries do flourish, be-
cause they haue found meanes to content
the consciences of their subiects, by whi-
ch Examples his maiestie may knowe y^e
not the permission of the Religion, but the

hinderance of the exercise of the same,
hath engendred the mischiefs and calamities
which now he beholdeth through all
his Realme.

Fourthly, that his Maiestie not being
able to confirme the laste peace without
his Edict of Pacification, and not being a
ble to keepe that without maintaining the
same and putting it in execution: he may
plainly see that, the maintenance of his
Edict is the only fundation, and meanes
of peace, yea it is the very peace it self.

Fiftly, like as the upholding therof is a
meane of peace and avoiding warres, so
is it the only way wherby his maiestie
may recover the obedience of his subiects:
for it is a thing most certain y^e a King be-
coming Captain of any faction among his
subiects, can neuer be wel obeyed, for it is
requisite y^e he should shew him self a com-
mon Father to all his subiects, in endeavour-
ing to reconcile them one to an other.
Also sixthly to deale and sweare against y^e
upholding therof, is the only meane to bring
his maiesties subiects in greater mistrust
then befoze, and so to areare moze cruel
warre then befoze time.

Seuenthly

Seuenthly to allcadge y^e soueraigne au-
toritie of a King so: the doing o: swering
to such matters, to bzing his maiestie vnto
a perpetuall rebuke among all the worlde,
wherby he shall be accounted a Prince void
of all faith, lawe, hono: and vertue. For
his maiestie may call to minde how oftens
he hath bothe by word and wryting pro-
fessed him self to be a true Prince, such a
one as wil promise nothing but what he
entendeth to performe, yea and mindeth
rather to promise nothing, so that no man
of honour can otherwise conclude but that
either he ought not to haue made the con-
tents of y^e edict: o: else he ought to obserue
it, as his maiestie in his owne person hath
vled to say.

For y^e eighth especially the Lord Duke
assureth him self that his maiesty may wel
perceiue that with any man who would ob-
serue the contents of their othe, o: solow the
counsaill of these pretended states which is
no other then the othe it selfe, notwith-
standing it had neuer bene sworne: it
would be vnpossible to haue any trafique,
because that neither worde, promise, othe,
obligation, seale, o: other thing whatsoe-

uer, ordinary and lawfull for the assurance
of faith among men, especially between the
Prince and his subjects, considering the
imbecillitie of the said subjects, would be of
any more force, but contrariwise should
serue only for nets and snares wherewith
to entrap eche other.

Finthly his Maiestie ought to consider
that neighbours and straungers cannot
assure them selues of that Prince, whose
subjects cannot trust him, as they of the
Religion, who haue ouermuch bene per-
swaded. For to shewe that they began not:
we neede no other argument then the pro-
position of the said Lord of Villequier,
namely that the King is not minded to ob-
serue the principall point of his Edict.

As touching the example of the Quene
of England, it is sufficiently knowen that
that Ladyes hart is such, as if shee had a-
mong her subjects found such numbers of
Princes, Lordes, gentlemen and others of
the Romaine Religion within her domi-
nions, who should as his Maiesties sub-
jects haue done, so ofte haue requested her,
rather than to haue incurred such spoyles,
and once onely falsified her faith and pro-
mise

mise, her maiestie would haue permitted them the exercise of their Romish Religion.

Tenthly that his maiestie should beare at the least asmuch affection vnto his owne Subjects, as he hath shewed vnto the states of the lowe Countreyes, in reioynging with them for the determination that they haue taken, for the recovery of their libertie, hauing also bene a mediator to the saide Estates for the restoring againe of the Countie of Egmonde into his estates and honours, wherin he hath the more to consider of the pollicie of the Spaniarde, who seeketh nothig but to continue warres in Fraunce, to the end thereby to turne away the tempest from his owne Countreyes after his good and vsuall maner.

Finally, whereas his Maiestie allea- geth that willingly hee would leaue his Subjects the libertie of their consciences: that were much more to be mistrusted because it is mosse vndoubted, that hee who can liue without exercise of his Religion, is vtterly deuoyd of all conscience, so that it is as much as if his maiestie should say, I will graunt my Subjects their liues, but

In the meane time he should take frō them
their soode, wherein the Papists doe shewe
a sufficient argument that they cannot
live without Masse; so that the said Lord
Duke cannot giue his Maiestie any better
counsaile, except that if hēe minde to re-
maine a King, and to shewe him self such a
Prince that a man may deale and trafique
and trust to his maiestie, that thē he maine-
taine his Edict, and obserue his faith in
procuring the abuses of these pretended E-
states (wherof his maiestie speaketh) to be
reformed by such meanes as shall be
thought reasonable, for the said assembly
cannot be taken for true, free, and lawfull
Estates, but rather for traytors to his ma-
iestie & his crowne, neither are they per-
sons promised by the Edict, for they should
be kept for the maintenaunce and confir-
mation of the peace, but not for the subuer-
ting thereof, to which end they haue mosse
vilanously beene subbourned, as many
times his Lordship hath aduertised his ma-
iestie. The rehearsall of all which things
the said Lord Duke could very well for-
beare, were he not constraind as well by
the plainesse of his conscience and honour
which

which is engaged in the subscription of the peace, as also by reason of the singular affection which he beareth to the commoditie, aduancement and seruice of his maiestie, in which minde he will continue all his life time, hauing nothing in more recômendation then to bring to the crown of Fraunce, and the tranquillitie of his maiesties subjects, what so ever meanes or counsaile God shall ever giue him without sparing ought, which the said Lord Duke moste humbly desireth his maiestie to beloue, and for such a one to account him, placing him in the number of his moste faithfull and affectionate friends and seruants.

This is all which the said Lord Duke can imparte to his maiestie, in ought that appertaineth to his person. But as concerning his armie that was in Fraunce, the said Lord Duke, his Colônels, Reystre-masters and Captains, hauing heretofore thought it straunge that his maiestie kept not with them the promises which he had to the made and so often reitreated vnto them, as well at Francfort as at Strasbrough touching their payment and hostages, doe now thincke it muche more
straunge

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and trust to his maiestie, that the he maine-
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straunge

straunge, and a matter almoste impudent,
that such a Lord as the Lord of Villequier
comming into these partes as Embassadoz
for his maiestie, hath not onely not brought
any assurance of the same: but also not so
much as is spoken thereof sauing by the way
yea and which is more, that the effect of
his message is vtterly repugnant vnto
the Obligations and promises of his ma-
iestie.

¶ Therfore the said Lord Duke, not in his
owne name only: but also in the name of his
whole armie requireth his maiestie to haue
regarde to his honour and to keepe faith and
promise wberby at the next faire at Franc-
forte aswel the said Lord Duke, as also his
Colonels, Reistremaisters, and Captaines,
may be satisfied, who in the name of the
whole armie, will meeete at the said Citie of
Francforte, there to determine of their af-
fares, according as the Lord Beuterich and
the other Captaines sent with him, may
more amply aduertise his maiestie.

All this dooth the aforesaid Lord Duke
moste hartely request the said Lord of Vil-
lequier to let his Maiestie, fully, openly,
and at large vnderstande, together with
what

What soener he hath answered by word
of mouth, without any circumstances,
or difficultie, with like plainesse,
affection, and good will, as the
saide Lord Duke in mak-
ing this answere hath
procéded and desi-
reth ener to pro-
ceed toward his
Maestie.

0

Thus subscribed
I. Cassimire.



The

The Oration of the Lord of Ba-
terich Embassadour from the most no-
ble Prince, Iohn Cassimir, Countie Pa-
latine of Rhine, Duke of Bauier, & c.
pronounced before the King in his
towne of Bloys.



In we haue our commissi-
on on the behalfe of my
Lord & Duke Iohn Cassi-
mir, Countie Palatine of
Rhine, Duke of Bauier & c.
aswell in his owne name
as also in the name of all the Lords, Colo-
nells, Rheystreraisters, & Captains, and
generally of all his men of warre, who in
his second voyage into Fraunce accompa-
nyed him, after their moste humble com-
mendations, to beseech your maiestie to ful-
fill that which you haue promised, signed,
sealed, & oftentimes confirmed, as wel by
mouth as letters, touching the pay and as-
surance of the said men of warre, whiche
is the cause of our arinall in your Court.

Truely it would cause vs to blush if
particularly we should rehearse all that is
wanting

Wanting of the performance of the promises made vnto vs bothe before and after our departure out of this Realme. The place whereof we doe claime our selues, would seeme to make this matter much more odious, were it not on the one parte the necessitie, wherevnto we are bound by the commaundement of them that haue sent vs, and on the other parte the assurance which all they whome this matter concerneth haue conceiued, that your Maiestie knowing the ground of this case, how it goeth and what dependeth therof, will take so good and speedy order, that besides the increase of your reputation, we shall receiue such satisfaction, as bothe we doe promise our selues, and ought to hope for of a King of Fraunce, who hath made a solemne promise to a foraine nation, especially vnto ours.

First your maiesties Obligation bearing date the 27. of Iuly 1576. doth expressly import that at the faire of Franckfort in September last past, the third, fourth and fifth moneths should haue bene paid. That the 100000. francks which my Lord the Duke Iohn Cassimire lent to your Maiestie for the supplying of the payment of the two
first

first moneths should at the same faire haue
bene discharged.

That your maiestie befoze the same
terme should haue sent Commissioners to
take order for that which yet resteth due
vnto my said Lord the Duke Iohn Casimir
since his first voyage, together with that al-
so which yet is behinde of the voyage of my
late Lord the Duke of Deux ponts or two
bridges.

That your Maestie would with all ex-
pedition accomplish the promised number
of hostages and that befoze our departure
out of France.

These Articles together with many o-
thers are promised and signed by your Ma-
iestie, counter-signed by one Secretary of e-
state, and one Secretary of your treasury
and sealed with your brode scale, the effect
whereof as accomplishment we haue not he-
therto found.

Leauing the referch of the botome of these
matters (as the first agreement which my
Lady your Mother made at Chosteau neuf)
immediatly after that my Lord had recei-
ued the money of your maiestie shewing in
effect by the law of an C. thousand franks of
his

his owne for the supplying of the pay of
two moneths, how affectionate he was
vnto your crown, how he departed with al
sped out of Fraunce (which all Beystres
would not haue don) not minding by way-
ting for the perfect accomplishment of your
promises to be græuous or troubleſo to your
people, so that what so euer aduertisement
he receiued, as assuredly he had many, and
those from the best, that there was some
hidden mistery, yet could they not so much
win him, as to cause him to shewe any to-
ken of mistrust so much did he assure him
selfe in your worde.

Afterwarde your Maiestie gaue him
to vnderstand by sundry letters, that you
could not accoꝝding to promise satisfie him
at the fair of September, by reason of the
assembly of the Estates, who (besides the
confirmation of the Edict made by your
owne absolute and royall power) as we
were promised, should entreate vpon some
meanes how to discharge your Maiestie
towards strangers, and so to content vs,
also that at Christmas this fault should be
amended.

Immediately after Christmasse and be-
fore

foze Petwéeres day, your maiestie sent my
Lord word that the Estates had put adout
and let in the behalf of Castelas, which could
not so sone be decided, also that in y^e meane
time your Maiestie would cause to furnish
at the faire of Strasbrough which was hol-
den at the same season, the partes of my
Lord the Duke of Lorraine, and my Lord
the Duke of Vaudemont.

Sir wee are soze to say so much: but the
trueth is, there wanteth 2 50000. which is
in manner the one half which yet wee haue
not receiued of those two parts, and in the
meane time my said Lord was personally
at Strasbrough, where were also sundry
Colonels, Reistremaisters, Captaines, and
Souldiers at the least xv. dayes and more,
to their great costs, charges, labour & fra-
uaile, procured by the delay of the said
payment.

Now is Easter fair, which is to be hol-
den at Francfort at hand, at the which your
maiesties promise should take place.

First concerning the former debts due
vnto bothe my Lord the Elector Palatine,
next to my aforesaid Lord the Duke John
Casimire,

Items

Item touching the first and sevenenth moneths pay for the armie.

Which articles, we can if need be, specifie unto your maiestie. Having comiandement to desire your maiestie to satisfie the same at this next faire at Fawcort, which is to be holden at Easter next, unto the end and enery of the day, as wel for the time past, as y^e which is to come, which amounteth almost to 4. Millions of franks, besides costs and damages. The payment of which sum withen such a tearme, would go hard with any flourishing estate, not indebted, turnoyled, or sacked with continuall wars, for the space of 20. or 25. years, whereas if all had bene quiet and in resse all things might have abounded, so that now it cannot be but we must needs much doubt therof. And that that most troubleth vs is that befoze our eyes we see that you seek not the meanes so to do, as is vident even by practise, thereby to frustrate vs of all hope of receiuing any thing out of Fraunce into Germanie, either at this fair, or any other, or of long time hereafter, notwithstanding that by your obligation no troubles should impeach the effect of your promises, which prom

C. cedeth

cedeth of. I wot not what league. This (to be
breef) is the final breaking of the Edict of pa-
rification, required (say they) by them who
ought to buy the firme establishment thereof
with their owne blood, which cannot be other
then accompanied with the moste cruell and
lamentable war that ever was. These un-
doubtedly wil be the last civil troubles of your
Realme, we are no French men, this mat-
ter toucheth vs not so neere. We be men and
Germanes endelwed with humanitie, which
moueth vs to compassion in respecte of the
slaunder that is like to ensue of this warre,
so far are we boyd of any desire to kindle the
wars, neither are we much practised in mat-
ters of Estate, and yet doe we assuredly
knowe that there was neuer any league
but hath bene damageable to a Monar-
chie, in the estate and among Subiectes.

We haue no commission (for your ma-
iestie lately sent vs word, that it was not
your pleasure, although oftentimes your
selfe haue requested vs) to deale in your
affaires, either in the affaire of your estate,
as with any your meanes, either to exa-
mine such dealing as haue past, neither haue
we heeretofore done it without the purchase
and

and instance of those which doe touch your person very nigh, or els at the soliciting of other things your predecessors. Well haile we bothe charge and expresse commaundement to open vnto you the present necessity of our affaires, and to propounde the ready meanes to releue the same, the which are so conioyned with the generall and superficiall consideration of your estate: that we cannot speake of our owne matters, but we must therewithall somewhat touch yours.

Being therefore that my Lord the Duke Iohn Casimire a Prince and your neighbour, besides all auncient bonds wherewith he is bound to with the welth of this crown, hath in declaration of his goodnes towarde you, been honoured with goodly lands, a pension, a charge of a hundred men of armes, & an estate of Colonel, which dignities he yet inioyeth, he findeth him selfe so much bounde to your maiestie that he thinketh he should doe intury to his deputie, if he should dissentible the inconueniences like to insue.

At such tyme as Fraunce was replenished with foraine Souldiers, euery one bothe great and small cryed for peace, and such as supposed vs not to be so attentiuie thereto, as

C.y.

in

in effect we haue declared our selues, saide
that the same was the onely way to collect
money for our payments, because say they
that the charges of war were infinite and
incredible, whereby it must needs followe
that the breaking of the peace doth cut of &
take away all meanes of our satisfaction, so
as we gather that we haue therein as great
interest, or moze then many great Lords of
your subiects, and therefore that it is our
dutie most humbly to exhort your maiesty
to the entertayning and assured obser-
uing of the same, yea although neither the
dutie of Christian charitie, the simpacie
that is in one only faithfull body, or our af-
fection to the wealth and quietnesse of your
dominions & crown, should drite vs there-
vnto, either the desire y we haue that your
maiesties credite might remaine in his full
force among all foraine Princes, and that
the confidence which your Subiects ought
to repose in you should in no wise be dimi-
nished. There is none but knoweth (it is
so fresh in minde) what time, labour, & tra-
uail first your selfe my Lord, then my Lady
your mother, my Lords & Princes of your
blood, my Lord & Duk John Casimire, your
Counsaile

Counsaile and others did sustaine and endure, what ruine, yea and how much money it cost befoze you could attain to this peace.

All good Frenchmen wished it, or indged it most profitable and necessary for your estate, your people accepted it and ioyfully receiued it, it was signed, sealed, sworne, and published throughout all the Courts, Baylitwicks, Townes, and places of this Realme, and notified vnto straungers by your Embassadors, vnto the singular contentation of such as wished the wealth of your Estate. Finally no necessary ceremony was omitted. We haue, enioy and possesse the lands, commodities and honours which you haue conferred vnto my said L. the Duke Iohn Casimire, for vnder any other title, he neither would receiue the, neither accept of your hostages, we haue also parte of the icwels of your Crown, & which we esteeme moze then all, we haue your royall word.

Now that we should reape the frutes of this peace, and receiue that which is promised & deliued vnto vs, also y all men should congratulate with your maiestie for y quietnes y you should finde, we must chaunge

C.iiij.

such

such speeches into a bewayling of the miseries arising of warres.

At the least if the destenie of Fortune be such, either of royall and absolute authoritie, either for certaine considerations to vs unknownen, as we y^e be Germains are to rude to vnderstand them, and our selues not open enough to comprehend that your maiestie will not that your subiecte should inioy the frute of the Edict of pacification, then let it remain closed within the boundes of your Realme, and not be dispersed in all coznerns of Germany, and in most parte of Svizzerland, for we cannot, but must needes receiue much græfe and intollerable damage thereby.

This consideration together with infinite others, which to this purpose might be alleaged by such as would enter into the view of your estate, doe to vs seem sufficient to extinguish, or at the least suspend this abolishment of the Edict, vntill we be satisfied, and then might you more iustly alledge that we haue not to doe to meddle therein, for now we deal with that that concerneth our selues, our honour and credit, together with the reputation of our whole nation.

Yet if it were but a matter of five or six moneths

inbneſſs labour, the end whereof we might then finde, and that it might ſo be eaſely compaſſed, then were there ſome hope as touching our particular intereſt. But we now are certaine and well aſſured, that if we be once entred aborde this warre: we be all ready ouer olde to ſee the end.

It is no ſmall matter when a man is reduced to theſe extremities, that he wil rather ouerthrowe him ſelfe and others, then with his goods to loſe both Countrie, honour, and life, when a man proceedeth ſo farre, it is down, all reſpect and all duetie of one ſide, and other. vaniſheth away. The politike perſon, and the reſourmed, each of them forgetteth him ſelfe, whatſoeuer tendeth either to the one or other end ſeemeth lawful. Such as haue abidden theſe extremities the ſpace of xli. or xlvj. yeeres, will not be daunted with ſuch beginnings, hauing ſo many intelligences and good aduertilements from all partes, we know it: for we haue frequented it. There muſt be a whole ſtozehouſe of money, beſides the ſhedding of the French blood. There will enſue a ſtiſſe determination of irreconſiliable war, while in the meane time what will become of our payments, the wayting for

C. liij. which

which, will be vnto vs as greivous & intolerable, as it wil be harde to send the same into Germany (so long as the warre doth last) or ealy to subdue the Huguenots.

What wil our Keystrs and souldiers, who are determined to mæte at the next faire of Francfort, say. I wil leaue to such as knowe what manner of men they be in matters touching payments due. What will be the general iudgemēt of our forrain neighbours? The soberest will say that Fraunce which in all ages hath borne alway ypprice of humanitie towarde straungers, is now become impatible to it selfe, neither able to abide peace, neither to maintaine war.

To conclude we doe beseech your maiestie on the part of my Lord the Duke John Casimire, who hath in his owne behalfe together with the behalfe of the body of his army sent, vs hether, to cause to furnish & satisfie at this next fair at Francfort, the whol contents of the Obligation which we haue of your maiestie, according as is aforeset downe,

This Sir is (without speaking any farther in your affaires, thē they concerne vs) the effect of all that we are commaunded to shewe vnto your maiestie at this present,

whome we doe moste humbly beseech to
take the same in good parte. We are Ger-
maines & therfore doe want copie of French
phrases. The commandement of those that
haue sent vs, dooth lay vpon vs the necessity
of acquitting our selues, whereto we hope
your maiestie wil haue respect, for it tendeth
onely to our satisfaction, & the peace which
mainteineth & preserueth all estates. The
hazardes of warre haue often dispeared,
wasted & subuerted in one day; yea in one
houre, great Monarchies, how wel so euer
they haue bene ordered or established. God
for his grace, preserue yours in full perfec-
tion.

At Bloys the 23 of February.

1577.

This being ended he proceeded
on this wise.



Sir, I am to speke for my Lord
the Duke Iohn Casimire who
gaue me perticuler instructions
to request your Maiestie in his
behalf, that you would not permit your self
to be led by such as doe endeouour to procure
you to breake the peace whiche was so
harde to be made. Also that if there be any

Article

Article contained therein which troubleth
your Conscience, or y^e seemeth to rigorous,
he wisheth that it might please you rather
to procure some tollerable moderatiō of the
same, then again to areare warres by the
breaking of the saide Edict.

To which end he hath commanded mee
to offer vnto you whatsoeuer credit he may
haue with the King of Nauarre the Prince
of Conde, the Marshall of Anuile and the
Churches, wherin he hath sufficiently au-
thorised me to procure any thing tollerable,
rather then to subuert all, namely to con-
ferre with y^e King of Nauers Deputie: wher-
foze it is in your Maiestie to consult and de-
uise, what I may doe therein wherto I doe
moste humbly offer my Person.

To the King.

If I doe most humbly request your ma-
iestie not to mislike that this day may
finish and cut of all such slaunders as haue
bene solwen and spread thzoughout Ger-
manie, Fraunce, and other places against
my Lord and maister the Duke Iohn Cas-
simire to the great preiudice of his honour
and reputation. Namely that the conside-
ration

ration and respect of his perticular pzoofte held him so intangeled and bzideled, that the same was perindistial vnto the publique and particular commoditie of his souldiers which followed him. In respect wherof: his excellencie hath charged me befoze my departure, to remit into your maiesties hands all such lands and estates wherewith it hath pleased you of late to gratifie him, whiche are the Duchie of Estampes, the nine Lordships situated within the Duchie of Burgundie, the pension, the Captainship ouer a hundred men of armes, together with the estate of Colonell ouer 4000 Keystrres.

The possession and inioying of all whiche things and of enery of them, his excellency hath and heere doth renounce, not willing heerafter to pzetend any right in the same, neither minding at this pzent to reape any commoditie therof. He doth also render vnto your maiestie, all letters and dedes concerning the same, except such as are depending of the afozslad lands situated within the Duchy of Burgundy, the which the chamber of accounts hath deteyned, the are rest wherof is heerunto adioyned. Also in case his excellencie hath recipzokely promised

missed or sworne vnto your Maiestie any kinde of duetie, if he hath bound him selfe in any respect whatsoeuer, by woord of mouth, letters, or p[ro]cter, his intent and purpose is by this restitution to be fully and perfectly discharged, as of matter graunted in consideration of the landes & estates aboue mentioned, h[er]ein renoking all duetie or Obligation whatsoeuer, except of good agr[ee]ment and neighbourhood, which at all times hath bene maintained betwene the Kings of Fraunce, and the famelies of the Palatine Princes, besides the earnest zeale which he beareth to the welth of this Crowne, from the which this restitution shall in no wise alienate his minde.

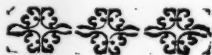
I haue no Commission otherwise to descend to the particular occasions, but to shew your maiestie that in case you be any thing desirous to knowe the same, his excellency immediatly after my returne wil not much stick to declare it.

In respect of our selues, who vnder the assurance of publique faith and the safe conduct which it pleased you to sende vs, are come euen to your Court, I haue expresse charge of his excellencie, moste humbly to request

request your Maiestie to giue leaue to two
of vs with all speede to returne into Ger-
manie, and me Buterich to departe into
England according to my maisters com-
maundement about sundry his ex-
cellencies weightie affaires of
importanncce, granting
vs to the same ende
two seuerall Pas-
ports and safe
conducts.
(?)

At Bloys the 7. of March, 1577.

FINIS.



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(?)

At Bloys the 7. of March. 1577.

FINIS.

